

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. New claims 22-25 are presented for examination. Claims 1-25 are pending, of which claims 1-5, 7, and 9-18 have been amended. The 5 amendments to claims 1-5, 7, and 9-18 are simply to provide clarification and/or to correct informalities noted by the Examiner and/or the Applicant, and are not to overcome prior art.

Claim Objection

10 Claim 1 is objected to for a grammatical informality (*Office Action* p.2). Appropriate correction has been provided herein and Applicant requests that the claim objection be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. §112 Claim Rejections

15 Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Specifically, independent claims 1 and 9 are rejected for terms that render the claims indefinite (*Office Action* p.2). Appropriate corrections have been provided herein and Applicant requests that the §112 rejection be withdrawn.

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35 U.S.C. §103 Claim Rejections

Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for obviousness over U.S. Patent No. 5,930,553 to Hirst et al. (hereinafter, "Hirst"), in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0069750 to Siegel et al. (hereinafter, 25 "Siegel") (*Office Action* p.3). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Hirst and the subject application were commonly owned by the same organization, the Hewlett-Packard Company, at a time when the invention of the subject application was made. Additionally, the subject application has a filing date after November 29, 1999. Accordingly, the Hirst reference is 5 disqualified as prior art against the claimed invention pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §103(c) via 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

The Office cites Siegel for disclosing software that prompts a user for information to register a product (*Office Action* p.4). However, Siegel does not provide an independent basis to reject any of the pending claims.

10 Accordingly, claims 1-21 are allowable over Siegel and Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Pending claims 1-25 are in condition for allowance. Applicant 15 respectfully requests reconsideration and issuance of the subject application. If any issues remain that preclude issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney before issuing a subsequent Action.

Respectfully Submitted,

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